

cases for ten years; the predominance in early cases in contrast to the rest of the population of the U.S.A., where such cases are in a minority; twice as many arrested or discharged cases from sanatoria as those in the rest of the country, and an improvement in the chances of resuming work.

The co-operation of employers and trades union officials has been secured in New York city. It should not be difficult to achieve the same co-operation in Ulster. There is already a great interest in the prevention of tuberculosis amongst employers of labour, and they would view favourably a scheme which would result in an improvement of the health and efficiency of their workers. Trades union officials and the workers would also welcome the scheme, provided they were assured that no unfair victimisation would result from its operation. The necessary technical work would best be carried out by teams of photographic specialists, in collaboration with radiographers. The reading of the films and the careful investigation of the suspect cases would be the task of the medical profession.

REVIEW

SURGERY OF MODERN WARFARE. Parts I, II, & III. Edited by Hamilton Bailey, F.R.C.S. (Pp. 160 in each part. Illustrated. Price 12s. 6d. net per part). Edinburgh: E. & S. Livingstone. 1940.

THESE books form part of a symposium on war surgery, of which further parts, uniform in size and price, will be published from time to time. Mr. Hamilton Bailey has a team of no fewer than sixty-five contributors, a veritable galaxy of talent, for the production of these very readable volumes. Perhaps inevitably, such a team has proved too unwieldy, for inconsistencies, individual enthusiasms, and a general lack of balance are evident, especially in Part I. The discrepancies in this common stock of knowledge may, however, be of value, in that they allow latitude for the development of the reader's own ideas. This seems an advantage, for experiences with closed-plaster and chemotherapy are daily altering our ideas on the healing of wounds.

Part I considers the general and special features of war wounds, and their treatment. It makes most instructive reading, and, with the above qualifications, is excellently done. One would like to have had a more detailed chapter on the important subject of burns, but this section has suffered from over-compression.

Part II contains the sections on wounds of the trunk and of blood-vessels. The chapters on thoracic and abdominal injuries are by most distinguished and authoritative writers, and should prove exceedingly valuable. There is also a remarkably practical section on the exposure of blood-vessels, where the author, in dealing specifically with the living subject, weans us successfully from our long-held conceptions of these procedures in the cadaver. Page 188 contains a number of diagrams illustrating simple local anæsthesia, and the insertion of a self-retaining catheter. These diagrams might instruct the final-year student, but are surely out of place in the present work.

Part III has sections on wounds of peripheral nerves, of tendons, of hand and foot, of bones and joints, and on the methods of immobilising the limbs. This whole volume is full of interest to the general surgeon, the chapter on tendon injuries being particularly delightful. Again, over-compression is all too obvious. For example, the text on wounds involving the knee and hip-joint is squeezed into the space left on only thirteen pages, after diagrams, chapter headings, bibliographies, and so on, have taken their inevitable and irreducible toll. Inequality, too, is well exemplified by comparing the small and unattractive drawings, which inadequately explain the methods of applying extension to the limbs, with the excellent photographs which illustrate the use of Cramer wire, and are so instructive and complete that they might almost have replaced the textbook on that subject.

The publication of further parts of this symposium will be awaited with interest, and will be the more welcome if the small objections one finds to the first parts cannot be levelled at those to come.